

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Bradley Byrne United States House of Representatives 119 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

On behalf of the Association of the United States Navy, we would like to pledge our support for H.R. 1032, the Full Choice for Veterans Act. This bill would expand the eligibility of veterans for hospital care and medical services provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical providers under the Veterans Choice Program.

A veteran is an eligible veteran for purposes of the Veterans, Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 if the veteran is enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including any such veteran who has not received hospital care or medical services from the Department and has contacted the Department seeking an initial appointment from the Department for the receipt of such care or services.

Under the Veterans Choice Program, veterans receive a card to get care from private doctors or hospitals. Currently, access to the VA Choice Program is limited to those who have waited longer than thirty days for VA care or those who live more than forty miles from a VA facility.

Thank you for taking an active role in such an important issue to the Military and Veteran community by working to improve the lives and careers of those who served our great nation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 703-548-5800 or at michael.little@ausn.org.

Sincerely.

Michael J. Little

Director of Legislative Affairs